

# Dr Paul Olding

## Writer/Director & Showrunner

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BAFTA nominated (Best Director), multiple award winning Tv Writer/Director and Series Producer with 20 years experience working across drama, documentary and branded content. I am a creative film maker with my roots in Specialist Factual documentary, but with a passion and ambition for drama, beginning with my own independently funded film shorts, and then moving into drama docs, serial drama and scripted factual drama. I possess a wide knowledge of filming styles, work well with actors, presenters and contributors alike and drive a quality aesthetic on screen. I have pitched and developed countless projects through to completion. I am experienced with the rigours of both full drama and doc filming schedules, and always bring an imaginative and dynamic vision to each venture.

Showreel: <https://vimeo.com/195756857>

IMDB: [http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2574778/?ref\\_=fn\\_al\\_nm\\_1](http://www.imdb.com/name/nm2574778/?ref_=fn_al_nm_1)

Talent Manager: <https://www.thetalentmanager.co.uk/talent/12718/paul-olding>

### Selected Drama & Factual Dramadoc Credits

#### ***Albert: Passion, Prejudice and Power***

1 x 94min Channel 5 (In Process). **Writer/Director**. Scripted factual dramadoc exploring the Prince Consort's rise to power and how Queen Victoria became so dependent on her husband. Comm Lucy Willis, Elephant House Studios

#### ***Wallis: The Queen that Never Was***

1 x 94min Channel 5 2017. **Writer/Director**. Scripted factual dramadoc exploring the life of Wallis Simpson from her point of view, revealing a victim not a villain. Comm Lucy Willis, Elephant House Studios

#### ***Autopsy: The Last Hours of...***

2 x 60 min Reelz 2015. **Writer/Director**. Emotional dramadocs exploring the deaths and lives of **Rodney King** and Bee Gee **Maurice Gibb** driven by details gleaned from their autopsy reports. SP John Fothergill, ITV Studios

#### ***Monsters Behind the Iron Curtain***

1 x 90min Animal Planet/NGCI 2014. **Writer/Director/Producer**. Dramadoc investigating strange creatures and weird occurrences hidden behind the Iron Curtain. Comms Patrick Keegan, Hannah Demidowicz, Pioneer Productions

#### ***NASA's Unexplained Files***

Discovery Science 2014. **Series Drama Director**. Creating over 130 scenes of drama recon exploring space related weirdness for this 8 part series, from the 12<sup>th</sup> century to the present day. EP Greg Chivers, WagTV

#### ***BBC Doctors***

6 x 30mins BBC1 2013/2012. **Director**. Exploring assorted medical conditions, sibling rivalry, being old and gay, living with cancer, plus a song and dance homage to Dirty Dancing. Shot at speed but maintaining high production values, directing strong performances from regulars and guest artistes. Producers Jonathan Phillips, Carol Harding, BBC

#### ***Horizon: The Genius Sperm Bank***

1 x 50min BBC2 2006. **Writer/Director/Producer**. Scripted dramadoc about Robert Clarke Graham and his drive to breed intelligence with his Repository for Germinal Choice. EP Andrew Cohen, BBC

### Selected Tv Documentary Credits

#### ***Life of a Universe: Creation & The End of Days***

2 x 30min ABC Australia 2017. **Writer/Director**. Prof Brian Cox explores the very start and very end of the universe whilst on tour in Australia. EP Michael O'Neill ABC

### ***What on Earth***

10 x 60 Discovery Science 2016. **Series Producer/Writer**. Satellite imagery of weird structures seen on earth. Leading a team of 20, plus script writing, series editing, drama recon and client liaison. Comm Neil Laird, WagTV

### ***Cleopatra's Lost Tomb***

1 x 60min C4/PBS 2015. **Writer/Director**. Following the excavations of a maverick archaeologist searching for Cleopatra's lost tomb. With stylized dramatic motifs. Comms Rob Coldstream, Steve Burns, Dragonfly TV

### ***How We Got to Now with Steven Johnson: Light & Glass***

2 x 60min PBS/BBC2 2014. **Director/Producer**. Emmy Award winning exploration of unsung inventors and inventions that have made the modern world. Comms Martin Davidson, Bill Gardner, Nutopia

### ***The Mystery of Rome's X Tombs***

1 x 60min BBC2/PBS Nova 2013. **Writer/Director/Producer**. Investigation of an ancient mass grave, combining archaeology, scientific analyses and CGI, with Dr Michael Scott. Comms Martin Davidson, Evan Hadingham, BBC

### ***Wonders of Life: Size Matters***

1 x 60min BBC2/Science Channel 2013. **Writer/Director/Producer**. Award winning big budget factual blockbuster investigating the physics of life through the big and small, with Prof Brian Cox. EP Andrew Cohen, BBC

### ***City Beneath the Waves: Pavlopetri***

1 x 60min BBC2/Discovery 2011. **Writer/Director/Producer**. Archaeological obs-doc revealing the secrets of a submerged Bronze Age city. One of the most repeated documentaries on BBC 2/4. EP Gary Hunter, BBC

### ***Britain's Secret Seas: Giants of the West & Bustling South***

2 x 60min BBC2 2011. **Writer/Director/Camera**. Natural wonders revealed in the waters around the British coastline. From basking sharks and spider crabs, to the wreck of the Torrey Canyon. EP Gary Hunter, BBC

### ***Wonders of the Solar System: Dead or Alive***

1 x 60min BBC2/Science Channel 2010. **Writer/Director/Producer**. BAFTA nominated (Best Director), multi award winning exploration of the planets and moons of our Solar System, with Prof Brian Cox. EP Andrew Cohen, BBC

### ***Horizon: What on Earth is Wrong with Gravity?***

1 x 50min BBC2/Discovery Science 2008. **Writer/Director/Producer**. I brought Prof Brian Cox to the BBC for his first presenting role, taking a journey across the USA to investigate the nature of gravity. EP Andrew Cohen, BBC

### ***Earth The Power of the Planet: Volcano***

1 x 60min BBC2/Nat Geo/ZDF 2007. **Writer/Director/Producer**. Award winning HiDef series exploring Earth's geology and the heat engine that powers it. With Prof Iain Stewart. EP Phil Dolling BBC

## **Independent Drama Film Shorts**

### ***A Day, A Life***

15min Drama 2014. **Director/Producer**. Emotional drama shot in documentary style, exploring the relationship between a husband and wife, as their soldier son is sent to war

### ***Junkie Love***

2min Comedy Animation 2013. **Director/Producer**. Falling in love in rehab from Dudley Sutton

### ***Losing the Plot***

8min Drama 2010. **Director/Producer**. Exploring the tensions of a mother caring for her Dad with dementia.

### ***Help Wanted, Lonely Boy & Run for Your Life***

3 x 2mins Experimental Super8 Shorts 2010. **Director/Writer/Producer**. *Help Wanted* Straight8 entry about a psycho granny. *Lonely Boy* a boy who wishes for a friend. *Run for Your Life* (in Welsh) a woman escaping a hidden menace

### ***Taxi***

15min Drama 2008. **Director/Producer**. Four writers, four stories, all set in the back of a London black cab.

### ***Grandma's Funeral***

10min Comedy Drama 2008. **Director/Producer.** A true tragicomedy of a family preparing for Grandma's funeral

### ***Treasure***

10min Drama 2005. **Director/Producer.** An old man tirelessly searches for his treasure. With Dudley Sutton

## **Branded Content**

***Million Mile Light*** - Kickstarter campaign (2015)

***Icolube*** - Product launch (2015)

***Elephant & Castle Urban Forest*** - Charity awareness film (2014)

## **Radio Broadcaster**

### ***Sleep***

1 x 12min The Science Show, Australia 2015. **Writer/Presenter.** How we evolved to have two sleeps

### ***Nuclear Fusion reaches a Milestone***

1 x 15min The Science Show, Australia, 2014. **Writer/Presenter.** Laser driven nuclear fusion

### ***Identifying Ancient Plagues***

1 x 13min The Science Show, Australia 2013. **Writer/Presenter.** Using DNA to identify what killed the ancients

### ***The Life Scientific of Edward Lear & The Rise of English Wine***

2 x 13min The Science Show, Australia 2012. **Writer/Presenter.** Scientific life of Lear and the bloom in English wine

### **Presenter & Operations Manager**

East Fm Radio, Kenya 1998

### ***The Frog That Croaked***

1 x 30min BBC Radio 4 1998. **Writer/Presenter.** The demise of frog species in Australia

### **Breakfast, Lunch, Afternoon & Specialist Shows**

Oxygen 107.9fm, 1996-1997. **Writer/Presenter/Producer.** Over 350 hours of live radio broadcasting

## **Selected Awards**

2016 Award for Scientific Merit, SCINEMA Australia – *Wonders of Life*

2011 BAFTA nomination, Best Director – *Wonders of the Solar System*

2011 Peabody Awards, Winner - *Wonders of the Solar System*

2010 HDFest, Honorable Mention - *Losing the Plot*

2010 RTS Best Documentary Series, Science & Natural History – *Wonders of the Solar System*

2010 Audience Prize, 5<sup>th</sup> Intl Science Film Festival, Athens – *Do you know what time it is?*

2009 Rob Knox Film Festival, Winner Best Picture - *Taxi*

2008 Innovation and Technology Prize, 3<sup>rd</sup> Intl Science Film Festival, Athens – *Titan: A Place Like Home?*

## **Education**

- DPhil in Australian Frog Calls, Dept of Zoology, Oxford University
- BA Biological Sciences, Jesus College, Oxford University

References and full credit list available on request